

Abstract

A method of microbially deactivating items and storing the same, comprising the steps of:

a) placing items within a cavity in a sealable container having fluid access ports therein, the fluid access ports having a normally closed position and being moveable to an open position;

b) placing the container having items to be microbially deactivated in the cavity into a reprocessor having a circulation system for circulating a microbial deactivation fluid during a deactivation cycle, wherein the fluid access ports in the container are moved to the open position by actuating means on the reprocessor to be in fluid communication with the circulation systems;

c) circulating the microbial deactivation fluid through the cavity of the container; and

d) removing the container from the reprocessor following a deactivation cycle, wherein removal of the container from the reprocessor causes the fluid access ports to assume the normally closed position.